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|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Notice of Allowability</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|                               | 10/668,614             | ESCHBACH ET AL.     |  |
|                               | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|                               | Robert H Muromoto, Jr. | 3765                |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to personal interview on 11/16/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 23 September 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☒ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                    |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>11/16/2004</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                           |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required in order to make an examiner's amendment which places this application in condition for allowance. During an interview conducted on 11/16/04, Monte Falcoff requested an extension of time for 3 MONTH(S) and one additional new independent claim and authorized the Director to charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 the required fee for this extension and additional independent claim and authorized the following examiner's amendment. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

**In the Claims**

Cancel claims 1-8.

Rewrite claim 9 as:

- - 9. A method for machine weaving an at least two-ply, one-piece airbag or air tube comprising:
  - weaving weft threads of differing dTex in at least one ply and,
  - picking said weft threads only in predetermined warp thread length regions, and
  - interweaving part of said weft threads only in predetermined and non-overlapping width regions of the airbag. - -

Add new claim 14 as:

Art Unit: 3765

- - 14. A method for manufacturing an inflatable safety device, the method comprising:
  - (a) weaving threads of a lower dTex value in a first area;
  - (b) weaving threads of a higher dTex value in a second area; and
  - (c) weaving threads of the higher dTex value in a third area;wherein the first area is located between the second and third areas, the second and third areas not overlapping each other. - -

Add new claim 15 as:

- - 15. A method for manufacturing an airbag or passenger restraint air tube, the method comprising:
  - (a) weaving a first reinforced area at a first gas inflation location;
  - (b) weaving a second reinforced area at a second gas inflation location, the first and second locations being in fluid communication with each other; and
  - (c) weaving a non-reinforced area between the inflation locations. - -

Add new claim 16 as:

- - 16. An inflatable safety device comprising:
  - (a) threads of a lower dTex value in a first area;
  - (b) threads of a higher dTex value in a second area; and
  - (c) threads of the higher dTex value in a third area;wherein the first area is located between the second and third areas, the second and third areas not overlapping each other;

Art Unit: 3765

wherein the material is more easily folded in the first area as compared to the second and third areas. - -

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: independent claims 9, 14-16 and the respective dependent claims are allowed because the instant invention requires the weaving of an inflatable safety airbag with threads of differing linear densities in different regions of the fabric, and where the yarns of certain linear density are located and woven in such a way that the reinforced regions do not overlap, some regions are easier to fold than other regions and that the reinforced regions are associated with separate inflation locations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert H Muromoto, Jr. whose telephone number is 703-306-5503. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-530, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Calvert can be reached on 703-305-1025. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3765

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Bhm  
November 16, 2004



JOHN R. CALVERT  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700